

## Message Text

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ACTION ITFE-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 SCA-01 VO-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-20 /094 W

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P R 130847Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5652

INFO US MISSION GENEVA 552

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 1482

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 11150

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, CB, VS, TH

SUBJECT: UNHCR SUGVEY OF REFUGEE SITUATION IN THAILAND

REF: A) STATE 137442 B) BANGKOK 10260

1. WHILE WE APPRECIATE DEPT.'S EFFORTS (PARA 1, REF A)  
WITH REGARDS TO UNHCR AND CRS MERGING FORCES, DEPARTMENT  
SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING:

A) UNHCR/THAILAND, WHILE PERHAPS WELL-MEANING, HAS NOT  
BEEN VERY HELPFUL, IN FACILITATING AMEMBASSY BANGKOK'S  
EFFORTS TO EXPEDITE THE OUT-PROCESSING OF KHMER AND VIET  
REFUGEES. THERE IS MUCH TALK AT UNHCR BUT LITTLE ACTION.

B) WE HAVE RECEIVED LISTS FROM VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS (RED  
CROSS, YMCA, WORLD VISION, ETC.) OF KHMER AND VIET REFUGEES  
IN CAMPS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THAILAND. NUMBER AND  
NAME WISE, THESE LISTS HAVE SOME UTILITY. THE LISTS,  
HOWEVER, DO NOT RPT DO NOT CONTAIN THE SPECIFIC INFORMATION  
REQUESTED BY THE DEPT. FOR THE VISAS FALCON CABLE AND THE  
PAROLE REQUEST CABLE REQUIRED ON EACH HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD  
AND DEPENDENTS. UNHCR, WHICH HAS NOT YET SURVEYED ANY CAMPS  
ITSELF, HAS NO PROVISIONS FOR ASKING REFUGEES IF THEY HAVE  
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RELATIVES IN THE U.S. OR A SPONSOR (S) IN THE U.S.

UNHCR HAS NO PLANS TO SEND ITS PEOPLE TO KHMER REFUGEE CAMPS. IN ANY EVENT. THEY INTEND TO VISIT VIET CAMPS ONLY. WITHOUT THE PROPER INFORMATION. AMEMBASSY BANGKOK/REFUGEE OPERATIONS CANNOT INITIATE THE PAPERWORK NECESSARY FOR PAROLE APPROVAL/DENIAL.

2. REF B ASKED THAT THE DEPT. CONTACT CRS AND ASK THEM TO WORK OUT A WAY WHEREIN THE CRS STAFF PRESENTLY IN THAILAND COULD WORK WITH REFUGEE OPNS. PENDING FUNDING. MR. HOFFECKER, MS. KENEDY AND FATHER SUTHEP (THAI CATHOLIC PRIEST) ARE PREPARED TO BEGIN WORK IN THE NORTHERMOST KHMER REFUGEE CAMP IN THAILAND ON MONDAY JUNE 16. THE THREE HAVE BEEN FULLY BRIEFED ON WHAT INFORMATION REFOPS NEEDS AND WILL CARRY WITH THEM SEVERAL THOUSAND CARDS FOR

INTERVIEWING EACH KHMER HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.

3. INFORMATION OBTAINED BY THE CRS TEAM WILL BE CHanneLED TO REFOPS BANGKOK ON A DAILY BASIS, THE INFORMATION WILL BE REVIEWED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE THREE OFFICERS (DOWN FROM FOUR OFFICERS AS OF JUNE 14 WHEN MR. CARNEY LEAVES PCS) ASSIGNED TO REFOPS AND IF WARRANTED, PUT INTO CABLE FORMAT AND SENT TO THE DEPT.

4. ACCORDING TO OUR PLANNED SCENARIO, REFOP OFFICERS WILL BE ABLE TO INTERVIEW KHMER, VIET, AND LAO REFUGEES WHO APPEAR IN BANGKOK. FILL OUT THE NECESSARY CARDS AND PREPARE CABLES, AND, CONCOMITANTLY, RECEIVE AND PROCESS THE CONTINUOUS STREAM OF CARDS FROM THE REFUGEE CAMPS WHERE THE CRS TEAM IS OPERATING.

5. GIVEN MANPOWER LIMITATIONS, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT REFOPS BE ASSISTED BY PERSONNEL WILLING TO CONFORM TO OUR NEEDS AND HAVING PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH REFUGEES ON BEHALF OF THE U.S.G. THE CRS TEAM FILLS THE BILL - AT LEAST AS FAR AS THE KHMER REFUGEES ARE CONCERNED. THE PAPAL NUNCIO IN BANGKOK HAS APPROVED THE PROPOSED UTILIZATION OF CRS AND WE ARE READY TO ROLL. AS STATED PARA 2 (ABOVE), FUNDING FOR CRS OPERATION NEEDS TO BE RESOLVED. WE ARE HOPEFUL THE DEPT. WILL DO WHAT IT CAN TO POINT  
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CRS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK, IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

6. FYI: UNHCR INFORMATION ON LOCATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IS INACCURATE. WHILE THE NUMBER OF 2,000 VIETNAMESE IN THAILAND APPEARS TO BE ACCURATE, THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT 800 AT SATTAHIP. THE REST ARE SCATTERED ALONG THE COASTAL PROVINCES WITH CONCENTRATION AT KLONG YAI IN TRAT AND SONGKHLA.

WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, PAROLE, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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